

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please make the following amendments to the claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An ink supply amount control method for a printing press, characterized by comprising the steps of:

supplying ink from a gap between a plurality of ink fountain keys (4) and an ink fountain roller (3) to an ink supply path in accordance with rotation of the ink fountain roller;

~~intermittently stopping~~ altering a swing operation of an ink ductor roller which is arranged in the ink supply path and swings in synchronism with rotation of ~~the printing press~~ a printing plate (7) by preventing at least one swing and permitting at least one swing out of each plurality of potential swings;

when ~~the a~~ swing operation of the ink ductor roller ~~should intermittently be stopped~~ is prevented, controlling an operation of at least one of the ink fountain key and the ink fountain roller to control an ink supply amount to the ink ductor roller; and

supplying ink in a corrected amount to ~~a the~~ the printing plate (7) attached to a plate cylinder (8) through the ink supply path by the swing operation of the ink ductor roller.

2. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the control step comprises the step of correcting a gap amount between the ink fountain keys and the ink fountain roller.

3. (Original) A method according to claim 2, wherein the correction step comprises the step of executing correction when the gap amount between the ink fountain keys and the ink fountain roller is larger than a predetermined value.

4. (Original) A method according to claim 2, wherein the correction step comprises the step of setting the gap amount between the ink fountain keys and the ink fountain roller to a larger value.

5. (Original) A method according to claim 4, wherein the setting step comprises the step of setting a value obtained by multiplying the gap amount between the ink fountain keys and the ink fountain roller by a predetermined correction coefficient.
6. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the control step comprises the step of correcting a rotation amount of the ink fountain roller.
7. (Original) A method according to claim 6, wherein the correction step comprises the step of setting the rotation amount of the ink fountain roller to a larger value.
8. (Original) A method according to claim 7, wherein the setting step comprises the step of setting a value obtained by multiplying the rotation amount of the ink fountain roller by a predetermined correction coefficient.
9. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of  
counting the number of ink fountain keys for which the gap amount between the ink fountain key and the ink fountain roller falls within a predetermined range, and  
~~executing the intermittent~~preventing a swing operation of the ink ductor roller when the counted number of ink fountain keys is larger than a predetermined number.
10. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the control step comprises the step of controlling the ink supply amount in accordance with an image area ratio of the printing plate.
11. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the stop step comprises the steps of  
executing a periodical swing operation of the ink ductor roller in synchronism with the rotation of the printing press, and  
temporarily stopping the periodical swing operation of the ink ductor roller.

12. (Currently Amended) An ink supply amount control apparatus for a printing press, characterized by comprising:

a plurality of ink fountain keys (4) which are juxtaposed;

an ink fountain roller (3) which is rotatably arranged near said ink fountain keys, said ink fountain roller rotating to supply ink from a gap between said ink fountain keys and said ink fountain roller to an ink supply path;

an ink ductor roller (5) which is arranged in the ink supply path to freely swing and supplies the ink to a printing plate (7) attached to a plate cylinder (8) by a swing operation;

~~swing control means (25, 23, 27) for intermittently stopping the swing operation of said ink ductor roller which swings in synchronism with rotation of the printing press; and~~

swing control means (25, 23, 27) for preventing at least one swing operation of said ink ductor roller and permitting at least one swing operation of said ink ductor roller out of each plurality of potential swing operations, said potential swing operations occurring in synchronization with a rotation of the printing press; and

ink supply amount control means (120) for, when the swing operation of said ink ductor roller ~~should intermittently be stopped~~ is prevented, controlling an operation of at least one of said ink fountain key and said ink fountain roller to control an ink supply amount to said ink ductor roller.

13. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said ink supply amount control means comprises

correction means (121) for, when the swing operation of said ink ductor roller ~~should intermittently be stopped~~ is prevented, setting a correction value of a gap amount between said ink fountain keys and said ink fountain roller, and

ink fountain key driving means (21) for adjusting said ink fountain keys to opening ratios based on the set correction value.

14. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said correction means executes a correction operation when the gap amount between said ink fountain keys and said ink fountain roller is larger than a predetermined value.

15. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said correction means sets the gap amount between said ink fountain keys and said ink fountain roller to a larger value.

16. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said correction means sets the gap amount between said ink fountain keys and said ink fountain roller to a value obtained by multiplying the gap amount by a predetermined correction coefficient.

17. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said ink supply amount control means comprises  
correction means (122) for, when the swing operation of said ink ductor roller ~~should intermittently be stopped~~ is prevented, setting a correction value of a rotation amount of said ink fountain roller, and  
ink fountain roller driving means (22) for rotationally driving said ink fountain roller on the basis of the set correction value.

18. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 17, wherein said correction means sets the rotation amount of said ink fountain roller to a larger value.

19. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 17, wherein said correction means sets a value obtained by multiplying the rotation amount of said ink fountain roller by a predetermined correction coefficient.

20. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said apparatus further comprises count means (24) for counting the number of ink fountain keys for which the gap amount between said ink fountain key and said ink fountain roller falls within a predetermined range, and  
said swing control means ~~executes the intermittent~~ prevents a swing operation when the count value by said count means is larger than a predetermined value.

21. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said ink supply amount control means controls the ink supply amount in accordance with an image area ratio of the printing plate.

22. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said swing control means comprises

a swing mechanism (27) which executes a periodical swing operation of said ink ductor roller in synchronism with the rotation of the printing press, and

a swing stop means (23D) for temporarily stopping the periodical swing operation of said ink ductor roller by said swing mechanism.

23. (New) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of obtaining a set value for an opening amount of the ink fountain key or a rotation ratio of the ink fountain roller which is used in the swinging operation of the ink ductor roller when the swinging operation is not altered.

24. (New) An apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said ink supply amount control means further comprises means for obtaining a set value for an opening amount of the ink fountain key or a rotation ratio of the ink fountain roller which is used in the swing operation of the ink ductor roller when the swing operation is not prevented.